

***Response to the Non-compliant Appeal Brief, Supplemental Appeal Brief
and Examiner's Answer***

The reply brief filed on February 19, 2010 in response to the Non-compliant Appeal Brief notice mailed on January 22, 2010, and the reply brief filed on April 2, 2010 in response to the supplemental Appeal Brief mailed on February 3, 2010 have been noted. Therefore it has been forwarded to the Board of Appeal.

The reply brief filed on July 6, 2009 in response to the new grounds of rejection in the Examiner's Answer mailed on May 5, 2009 has been noted. Therefore it has been forwarded to the Board of Appeal.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JOHN F. RAMIREZ whose telephone number is (571)272-8685. The examiner can normally be reached on (Mon-Fri) 7:00 - 3:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian L. Casler can be reached on (571) 272-4956. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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